Amendments to the Abstract

Please **add** the following Abstract to this application.

-- A broadcast router (100) includes plural input cards (136-1 through 136-N), first and second router matrix card (134a and 134b) and plural output cards (138-1 through 138-M). Programmable devices (142-1 through 142-M) residing on the cards requiring configuration issue a request for configuration to a main controller (148) which resides, with a shared configuration information repository (146) on a configuration control card (140). After a period of time which allows additional programmable devices to request configuration elapses, the main controller (148) polls the programmable devices residing on the cards to determine which of the programmable devices had requested configuration and, using the configuration information maintained in the shared configuration information repository (146), configures each programmable device which had requested configuration.--